the strengthening of business contacts between the trading organisations of the two countries;

(6) Both Governments shall consult each other for exploration of new avenues in the field of industrial cooperation as well as for the utilisation of existing ones; and

(7) Both Governments have agreed to assist each other in the development of cooperation between their industrial and commercial enterprises for the purpose of pooling together their resources and technical knowhow for jointly cultivating the third country markets and for meeting the mutual needs arising from industrial development in third countries.

Release of funds for the development of tourism in the Southern States

940. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released so far by the Central Government to different Southern States for the development of tourism in these States during the current financial year;

(b) whether the Central Government have obtained any progress reports from these States; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The Department does not allocate funds State-wise/Region-wise; it rather provides central assistance on the request of the State Governments based on the merits of the projects, inter-se priorities and availability of funds with the Department. The total amount released during the current financial year so far, for each Southern States is as follows—

(Rs. lakhs)

1. Andhra Pradesh	4.75
2. Karnataka	9.00
3. Kerala	47.56
4. Tamil Nadu	27.67

(b) and (c) The State Governments forward to the Department the periodical progress reports on the projects sanctioned. The Ministry called for Southern States Tourism Ministers' Officials' Meeting at Mamallapuram in December, 1985 and reviewed the progress of various projects.

Non-plan expenditure

941. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the non-Plan expenditure of the Central Government has exceeded the original estimate during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the total estimates on this account during the Seventh Plan period;

(d) whether a Study Group has been set-up under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary, to review all plan schemes and non-Plan expenditure; and

(e) if so, whether the Group has since submitted its report and if so, what are its recommendations and what action has been taken thereon by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Inflationary pres-

sures, increase in the cost of maintenance of normal services' payment of Additional D.A. instalments, increase in the outlay for defence, subsidies and interest liability were the main contributing factors for excess in the non-Plan expenditure during the Sixth Plan period.

(c) The total non-Plan revenue expenditure (based on 1984-85 prices) is estimated at Rs. 150,510 crores during the Seventh Plan period.

(d) and (e) A Working Group has been set-up under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary to review all on-going activities and organisations of the Central Government and to discontinue those which have outlived their utility.

Review by the Group is continuing

Breaches of SBI operating in foreign countries

942. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of branches of the State Bank of India which are at present operating in foreign countries;

(b) whether these branches are running at loss or making profits; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Singapore branch of the State Bank of India incurred a net loss of Rs. 24 crores in 1984; if so, what are the reasons therefor and what action Government have taken to improve its performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that it is at present operating 24 branches in foreign countries. Information relating to the operational results of these 24 branches of SBI during the year 1985 is not available since the audited profit and loss figures for 1985 are yet to be received.

(c) The risk of some debts going bad is inherent in banking operations. Commercial banks, including public sector banks, make provision every year out of their annual income for meeting their liability towards bad and doubtful debts to the satisfaction of their statutory auditors and write off the debts which are considered by their managements as ultimately unrecoverable out of the provisions so made. SBI has also made provisions for meeting its liability towards bad and doubtful debts including those at the Singapore branch. According to the form of balance-sheet and profit and loss account prescribed under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and according to practices and usages customary amongst bankers, particulars of bad and doubtful debts, for which provision has been made to the satisfaction of their auditors, are not to be disclosed. In view of this, further details, in this regard, cannot be divulged.

The performance of the overseas branches of the public sector banks including SBI is continually reviewed by the Reserve Bank of India. Instructions have already been issued to the banks to strengthen the working of all foreign branches and to close down unremunerative branches, if they are not viable.

Import of foreign cars

943. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign cars and their models imported during March to June 1984 and the name of the persons who imported these cars; and

(b) the actual cost price of these cars and the amount of excise duty levied on them by Government, separately?